(b) if so, by when the proposed cell would be set up and start functioning; and

(c) to what extent the cell will devise methods to overcome bottlenecks and shortfalls in the poverty alleviation programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (c) There is already a Priority Sector Division in the Ministry of Finance, which handles matters relating to bank credit for all poverty alleviation programmes. This Division in consultation with Reserve Bank of India, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and also with other related Ministries and Institutions devise methods to overcome bottlenecks and shortfalls in the flow of credit for poverty alleviation programmes.

Gang involved in circulation of counterfeit Foreign Exchange

2268. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL:

SHRI D. B CHANDRE GOWDA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Enforcement Directorate officers at Bombay have recently busted an international gang involved in circulation of counterfeit foreign exchange to the tune of crores of rupees;

(b) if so, whether any arrests have been made in this regard;

(c) the details of the counterfeit currency seized during the raids; and

(d) action contemplated by the Government against the involved persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) to (c) Consequent upon personal as well as residential searches of S|Shri S. A. Dedanwala and Lachman Borkar conducted by the officers of Enforcement Directorate (FERA), certain incriminating documents besides, Thomas Cook Travellers cheques worth U. S. $ 34,500, two International Credit Cards, U.S. $ 199, D. M. 1050 and Travellers Cheques of U. S. $ 120 were seized. In this connection, both the accused were arrested.

(d) As the seized Travellers Cheques have been found to be forged one, the case has been referred to C.B.I., Crime Branch, Bombay.

Sample study by Planning Commission

2269. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a sample study has been conducted by the Planning Commission on the indebtedness of the tribals;

(b) if so, what is the result of the study; and

(c) what remedial measures Government proposes to take to tackle the problem of growing indebtedness among adivasis and non-adivasis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The Planning Commission has not conducted any specific study on indebtedness of tribals. However, the subject has been dealt with in the "Evaluation Report on Integrated Tribal Development Project" which is a study conducted by the Programme Evaluation Organisation (PEO) of the Planning Commission in 10 ITDPs in seven States in the country.

(b) The study based on a sample of 767 tribal house holds, has revealed, among other things, that larger number of tribals (33.77 per cent) had availed of loan in 1982-83 as compared to 1975-76 (14.47 per cent). While the percentage of tribal households availing loan from money lenders was as high as 72.07 per cent, it has come down 27.03 per cent in 1982-83. The percentage of tribal households taking loan from Cooperative| institutional sources was 55.98 per cent in 1982-83 as against 17.12 per cent in